

# HURRICANES, MAJOR DISASTERS, COASTAL PROTECTION AND RAPID RECOVERY IN TEXAS AND GULF COAST REGION

THC - 2014  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference



**Texas Hurricane Center**  
for Innovative Technology

Conference and Exhibition  
Sponsored by

**Texas Hurricane Center for Innovative  
Technology (THC-IT)  
&  
Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Industrial Engineering  
University of Houston**

**August 1, 2014**

University Hilton  
University of Houston  
Houston, Texas 77204-3902

## Conference Registration

The Conference is presented in a one day concentrated format to update the community, emergency managers and suppliers who play an important role in hurricane and other disaster preparedness, loss mitigation and rapid recovery. Well known and influential speakers will provide valuable information to the conference attendees. Complete and return the registration form with the registration fee before July 25, 2014 for an advanced registration discount. Registration fee includes admission, lunch, coffee breaks, and free hotel parking. Registration and attendance will be limited to the first 120 registrants.

For Hotel Reservations call (832) 531-6300 or 1-866-327-1161 and ask for Hurricane and Other Disaster Conference Rate.

## Top Reasons To Attend:

- (1) Be informed about the latest plans and procedures in preparing for hurricanes and other major disasters in number of major Gulf coast cities.
- (2) Network with state, city and county emergency managers, engineers, suppliers, consultants, researchers, educators, scientists, students and exhibitors.
- (3) Presentations include debris management, preparedness, loss mitigation, evacuation, coastal protection, transportation issues, rapid recovery and new technologies that could influence your operations.
- (4) View research posters from many Gulf Coast Universities and attend the reception.
- (5) Houston is easily accessible from anywhere in the U.S.

For conference information or to reserve exhibition spaces call **Dr. Vipul** at (713) 743-4278.

## REGISTRATION

Advanced Registration (by 7/25/2014)	\$135.00
At-Door Registration	\$150.00
Student Registration*	\$ 75.00

Exhibitor^	\$300.00
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(A reception is planned in the exhibit area)

^One person has free registration

\*Current I.D. and School Registration;

Please make check payable to THC-IT/UH  
and mail it to:

Conference Registration  
THC-IT/Dept. C&EE  
University of Houston  
Houston, TX 77204-4003  
(Attn: Dr. C. Vipulanandan (Vipu))

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Nick Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
(office use only)

For more information

Phone: (713) 743-4278; Fax: (713) 743-4260

Email: [CVipulanandan@uh.edu](mailto:CVipulanandan@uh.edu)

## About the Conference

A one day Conference and Exhibition is being organized by the Texas Hurricane Center for Innovative Technology (THC-IT) on "Hurricanes, Major Disasters, Coastal Protection and Rapid Recovery in Texas and Gulf Coast Region" at the University of Houston on August 1, 2014. The presentations will include current preparation plans for the entire Gulf Coast including Texas counties and cities for the 2014 hurricane season and other disasters. Special feature of this conference is the four panel discussions on hurricane issues, other disasters, coastal protection and debris management. After the technical sessions, a reception will be held starting at 2:30 p.m. with invited state, city, county and industry leaders in the exhibit area to facilitate networking. The conference fee also includes lunch, coffee breaks, reception and parking. Earn 5 PDH by attending the entire conference.

## List of Distinguished Speakers

### Session I: (8:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.)

**Mayor Stephen DonCarlos**, "Major Issues Related to Coastal Cities," Mayor of Baytown, Baytown, Texas, Keynote Speaker.

**Jack Steele**, "HGAC Regional Preparedness and Related Issues," Executive Director, Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, Texas, Keynote Speaker.

**Proven Solutions For Large Hurricane and Flood Risk Management Projects**, **Anwar Zahid**, Arcadis, Houston, Texas.

### Session II: (10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)

#### **Panel 1: Emergency Management and Recovery**

**Moderator: Delvin Dennis**, Klotz Associates, Houston, Texas.

Panelist (15 to 25 min. presentations)

**Emergency Management in a Major City**, **John R. Flanagan**, Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Houston, Houston, Texas;

**Hurricane Response Planning Made Easy – 5 Easy Steps**, **David Popoff**, Director, Galveston County Emergency Management, Galveston, Texas.

**Safeguarding Healthcare Delivery for Children During Disasters**, **Angela Smith**, Emergency Management Planner – Texas Children’s Hospital, Houston, Texas.

**Real-Time Geospatial Data Acquisition Analysis for Response**, **Craig Glennie**, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

### Panel 2: Power and Major Disaster Issues

**Moderator: Trent Slovak**, Vice President, KIT Professionals Inc., Houston, Texas.

**Power Grid Challenges and Issues**, **Randy Proyor**, Director Operations, Center Point Energy, Houston, Texas.

**TCEQ’s Role During Hurricane Responses**, **Micelle Havelka**, Homeland Security Coordinator, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Austin, Texas;

**Hurricane Sandy Recovery – The New Norm for the Jersey Shore**, **Sam Rosania**, Executive Vice President, Rostan Solutions, Tampa, Florida.

**The Role of the State in Disaster Recovery: A Comparative Analysis**, **Gavin Smith**, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

### Lunch Break, Exhibition & Research Posters

Posters on current research from **Various Universities along the Gulf Coast Region**. Companies participate in the Exhibition.

**11:45 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. Judge Robert Herbert** "How Hurricane’s are Dangerous to Inland Counties – Even When They Miss" County Judge, Fort Bend County, Sugar Land, Texas;

**12:10 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. Nim Kidd** "Disaster Related Challenges in Texas" Chief of Texas Emergency Management, Austin, Texas;

**12:35 p.m. to 12:55 p.m. Sid Miller** "Impact of Drought on Agriculture in Texas" Former State Representative of Texas, Austin, Texas.

### Session III: (1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.)

#### **Panel 3 : Coastal Protection and Modeling**

**Moderator: C. Vipulanandan**, Houston, Texas.

Panelist (15 to 20 min. presentations)

**Coastal Protection for Texas**, **Chris Sallèse Dannenbaum**, Houston, Texas.

**The Surge Suppression Imperative: Amassing the Substantial Risks to the Galveston Bay Region**, **Leonard Waterworth** TAMUG, Galveston, Texas.

**The Coastal Barrier System: Providing Comprehensive Protection from Surge**, **William Merrell**, TAMUG, Galveston, Texas.

**Protecting from Surge Probabilities not Possibilities: Using Statistically Significant Hurricane Characteristics to Model Surge Probabilities**, **Robert Whalin and Thomas Richardson**, Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi.

**Modeling of Oil Spill during Hurricane Storm Surge**, **C. Vipulanandan**, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

### Panel 4: : Preparedness and New Technologies

**Moderator: Rafael Ortega**, Vice President, LAN, Houston, Texas.

Panelist (15-20 min. presentations)

**Restoring Traffic Controls on the City’s System after Major Events**, **Jeff Weatherford**, Deputy Director, City of Houston, Houston, Texas

**Hurricane Preparedness & Response – Shell’s Approach**, **Phil Smith**, General Manager of Emergency Management & Deepwater Regulatory – Shell Energy Resources Company, New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Subsidence in Houston Observed by Satellite Radar Instruments**, **Hyongki Lee**, Geosensing Program, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

### **RECEPTION: (2:30 - 3:30 p.m.)**

A reception will be held in the Exhibit area (food and drinks). In addition to conference participants, number of cities, counties and industrial leaders will be invited to participate. This is a good opportunity to network and several of door prizes are waiting for you.

### **Professional Development Hours (PDH)**

Earn up to 5 hours of PDH by attending the conference. Certificates will be issued after the conference.

**"Innovation through Research and Education"**